

To: Judith Enck/R2/USEPA/US@EPA[]
From: Deborah Goldberg <dgoldberg@earthjustice.org>
Sent: Wed 9/1/2010 9:08:39 PM
Subject: Hoping to Meet with You Next Week (!)
EPA Hearing Coal Ash Contamination in Puerto Rico.doc

Dear Judith:

I am writing because an attorney from Puerto Rico with whom we have been working has scheduled a trip to NYC next week, and we are hoping that you will be able to squeeze in a meeting with us. Her name is Ruth Santiago, and she testified on Monday at EPA's hearing on coal ash. She already has met with Lisa Garcia, Lisa Jackson's environmental justice advisor, and with some folks on the Hill. Her testimony is attached.

You already may be familiar with the AES coal-fired power plant built in Puerto Rico in 2002-- wholly without a landfill for the 300,000 tons/year of coal ash it generates. For the first few years of operation, AES dumped the coal ash in the Dominican Republic, but following a lawsuit by the DR and an ongoing tort suit blaming birth defects on the dumping, AES has been using 100% of its coal ash as "fill" in Puerto Rico. A really outrageous situation. Ruth also has an issue with an unpermitted discharge from a landfill into a national heritage site bay.

Ruth will be in NYC all next week. We are hoping that you'll be available to talk with us about these situation. Obviously, folks in Puerto Rico will have to take the lead on investigations, but we'd welcome your thoughts about strategy, and we'd love to have Region 2 weigh in. Let me know if you can find the time.

Personally, I'd love to touch base when you have a spare moment--maybe a drink after work some day-- now that your office is so conveniently located.

Have a great Labor Day weekend,
Deborah

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